

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 HONG K 08137 141116Z

15

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-13 OMB-01 CU-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 RSR-01 /087 W

----- 081495

P 140600Z AUG 73

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7890

UNCLAS HONG KONG 8137

USIAC

FOR IOR/M IEA; STATE FOR EA

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: PRESS EDITORIAL

1. FOLLOWING EDITORIAL FROM SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST
AUG 14 TITLED "ELUSIVE PEACE IN INDOCHINA":

2. PRESIDENT NIXON'S NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER, DR.
HENRY KISSINGER, IS SUPPOSED TO VISIT PEKING THIS MONTH BUT
SO FAR NO FIRM DATE HAS YET BEEN FIXED FOR THE TRIP WHICH
OSTENSIBLY IS FOR CONCRETE CONSULTATIONS TO FURTHER THE
NORMALISATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND
CHINA.

3. HOWEVER, THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF DR. KISSINGER'S
PLANNED MISSION IS RELATED MORE TO THE PROBLEM OF INDOCHINA
THAN TO ANYTHING ELSE, FOR OF MORE IMMEDIATE IMPORTANCE
IS THE QUESTION OF CAMBODIA WHERE THE REGIME OF MARSHAL LON
NOL, WHICH WASHINGTON SUPPORTS, IS IN GRAVE DANGER OF
BEING OVERTHROWN BY THE INSURGENT FORCES, BACKED BY NORTH
VIETNAM.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 HONG K 08137 141116Z

4. THE WAY THINGS ARE GOING ON AT PRESENT IN CAMBODIA,

THE WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN AIR SUPPORT FROM THE GOVERNMENT
ARMIES ON WEDNESDAY - TO WHICH PRESIDENT NIXON IS
SELF-COMMITTED - THE FATE OF THE LON NOL REGIME WILL BE
INEVITABLY SEALED.

5. THE DECISION ON U.S. AIR SUPPORT AND LEGISLATION BY THE
U.S. CONGRESS ON CURBING AMERICAN MILITARY SPENDING IN
INDOCHINA PROVOKED A COMMENT BY PRESIDENT NIXON THAT
"THE INCENTIVE TO NEGOTIATE A SETTLEMENT IN CAMBODIA HAS
BEEN UNDERMINED."

6. INDEED, MR. NIXON AND HIS MILITARY ADVISERS REGARD
THE U.S. AIR FORCE AS A TRUMP CARD TO INDUCE PEACEFUL
NEGOTIATIONS, FOR, IN FACT, AS FAR AS THE PROBLEM OF
SOUTH VIETNAM WAS CONCERNED, IT HAD IN THE PAST PRODUCED
A MORE COMPROMISING AND FLEXIBLE ATTITUDE ON THE PART OF
NORTH VIETNAM AND THE VIET CONG.

7. THE INSURGENTS IN CAMBODIA AND THEIR FIGUREHEAD
LEADER, PRINCE SIHANOUK IN PEKING, HOWEVER, ARE AS
INTRANSIGENT AS EVER, REFUSING TO HAVE ANY SORT OF
DIALOGUE WITH THE LON NOL REGIME OR WITH THE UNITED
STATES, DESPITE THE HEAVY AMERICAN BOMBING ATTACKS.

8. AT ONE TIME PRINCE SIHANOUK HINTED THAT THE DOOR
WAS NOT SHUT TO NEW IDEAS FROM WASHINGTON FOR A
POSSIBLE SOLUTION BUT INSISTED THAT TALKS WITH THE
LEADERSHIP IN PHNOM PENH WERE COMPLETELY OUT.

9. RECENTLY, HOWEVER, HE AND THE INSURGENT LEADERS
MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE DOOR WAS TOTALLY CLOSED TO ANY
NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES AS WELL.

10. PEKING, HANOI AND PYONGYANG HAVE PUBLICLY
BECKED HIM, MAKING DR. KISSINGER'S INTENDED MISSION
TO PEKING, AS FAR AS THE CAMBODIAN QUESTION IS CONCERNED,
REDUNDANT.

11. OF COURSE, THE ABSENCE OF A FIRM DATE FOR DR.
KISSINGER'S TRIP TO CHINA COULD BE DUE TO PRINCE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 HONG K 08137 141116Z

SIHANOUK BEING AWAY IN NORTH KOREA.

12. NEVERTHELESS, WHETHER THE PROBLEM IS RESOLVED BY
FORCE OR AT THE CONFERENCE TABLE, THE IMPORTANT THING
TO THE UNITED STATES AND TO THAILAND AND OTHER NEIGHBORING
COUNTRIES IS THAT WHATEVER REGIME REPLACES THAT OF
MARSHAL LON NOL SHOULD BE STRICTLY NEUTRAL, STABLE AND
GENUINELY INDEPENDENT, REGARDLESS OF ITS POLITICAL

ORIENTATION.

13. WITHOUT THESE CONDITIONS, THE PEACE IN INDOCHINA
COULD BE SERIOUSLY THREATENED AND AFFECT THE SECURITY
OF OTHER PARTS OF SOUTHEAST ASIA.

IZENBERG

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, ARMISTICE, PRESS COMMENTS, GOVERNMENT IN EXILE, MEETINGS, PEACE TALKS, BOMBING LIMITATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973HONGK08137
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730839/aaaabscsm.tel
Line Count: 121
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: willialc
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Aug-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <20-Aug-2001 by willialc>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS EDITORIAL
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, OVIP, CH, CB, US, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: USIA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005